

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of one of directly and indirectly applying a coating medium onto a moving fiber material web, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a housing;

providing a spray device having an application area, said housing partially surrounding  
5 said spray device, said housing having a vapor supply line located substantially opposite from the direction of spray of said spray device, said vapor supply line directing a moistening atmosphere toward the back of said spray device, said vapor supply line not connected to said spray device;

orienting said spray device such that said application area is directed toward said fiber material web;

10 spraying the coating medium with said spray device to thereby atomize the coating medium defining atomized coating medium; and

maintaining an atmosphere of at least one of a back-moistening medium and a moistening medium for the atomized coating medium in said application area of said spray device.

2. (original) The method claim 1, wherein said at least one of a back-moistening medium and a moistening medium comprises a vapor of a liquid, said vapor being one of liquid and viscous before said spraying step, said vapor being configured for acting as a carrier liquid for the coating medium.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said vapor comprises water vapor.

4. (previously amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said spraying step includes utilizing said at least one of a back-moistening medium and a moistening medium as said moistening atmosphere.

5-7 (previously cancelled)

8. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said spray device comprises a rotary spray device.

9. (previously cancelled)

10. (original) The method of claim 8, comprising the further step of utilizing electrostatic force to bring the atomized coating medium to a moving surface.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, comprising the further step of supplying said at least one of a back-moistening medium and a moistening medium to the atomized coating medium.

12-21 (previously cancelled)